

CARNEGIE ENDOWMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE

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Professor Joshua Lederberg
Stanford University Medical Center
Stanford, California 94305

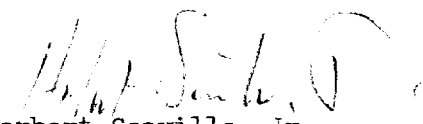
Dear Professor Lederberg,

I appreciate very much your letter with the material on CBW control and on the use of computer techniques for "chemical intelligence." I hope that your statements at Geneva were taken to heart by the delegates present. I also agree with you relative to the dangers of escalation when the fire breaks are not sufficiently sharp.

Work on the use of game theory in developing arms limitation was carried out under the direction of Dr. Thomas Saaty who has now left ACDA and is professor at the University of Pennsylvania. The actual work was carried out at Penn by a group under Professor Russell Ackoff. This ACDA-supported research is now terminated, but the reports of the project are all unclassified and could be obtained directly from the ACDA library. While I am not very well qualified to evaluate directly the work, I was personally very much impressed by this research. They not only made important extensions of conventional game theory but also used considerable imagination in attempting to apply them to real life situations. In many cases the conclusions they reached were very sensible, but of course I would agree with you that it is a long way to go before one can solve political problems by mathematical techniques. The political scientists have a strong aversion to any such approach which accounts for some of the hostility in the Senate hearings. In view of your interest in this subject I would strongly recommend that you get the ACDA reports and perhaps establish direct contact with Doctors Ackoff and Saaty. Dr. Saaty summarized some of this material in a book which was published by McGraw Hill and entitled "Mathematical Models of Arms Control and Disarmament".

I hope these leads will prove useful and assist you in your work.

Best regards,


Herbert Scoville, Jr.

HS:rab